FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 APRIL 1983

Jordan

During his meeting with British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym in Amman, King Husayn stressed the need for an effective British and EEC role to halt Israeli settlement activities in the West Bank, Amman television reported. In a predeparture statement Pym said the outcome of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks does not alter the "simple reality" that there is no "feasible" alternative to the Reagan plan, the television added.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak described reportage on the suspension of talks between Jordan and the PLO as "inaccurate" and asserted that "there is still hope" for reaching an agreement between King Husayn and the PLO, Cairo radio reported citing Mubarak's remarks following his return to Cairo from Pakistan. During an earlier news conference in Islamabad, Mubarak expressed Egypt's "readiness" to offer aid to the Afghan refugees, according to MENA. He noted that it is "incumbent" upon the Islamic states to help "our brothers whose country was invaded."

PLO Affairs

'Arafat Activities — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Sweden for talks with Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme on the recent Palestinian-Jordanian discussions, AFP announced.

PLO Policy — Noting that the Palestinians reject "capitulatory" solutions, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf declared that there is not a single Palestinian nationalist who accepts the Reagan plan, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported citing Khalaf's remarks during an Abu Dhabi news conference. Meanwhile, in an interview with the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, PNC Speaker Khalid Al-Fahum affirmed that relations with Jordan will continue and described Jordan's expression of support for the PLO as "positive."

In another development, following a meeting between Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah, the DFLP declared that it "sees no reason" for convening an Arab summit "under the current circumstances," according to Radio Monte Carlo.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Summit — Morocco insists on holding the emergency Arab summit conference in April and will shortly dispatch envoys to Amman and Damascus to persuade Jordan and Syria to attend, according to Moroccan sources cited by WAKH. Moroccan sources also told the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' that King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat will hold a bilateral summit in Morocco prior to the summit itself, INA reported. Meanwhile, asked by Radio Monte Carlo if Libya will attend the summit, Libyan Secretary for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi said his country will wait to see if there is one.

Saudi-PDRY Contacts — Pdry Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali held talks with his Saudi counterpart Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in Jidda, SPA noted. In a statement reported by SPA, Ad-Dali indicated that the talks would focus on bilateral relations and on wider Arab issues, in particular the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Lebanon

Tripartite Negotiations — After participating in the 12 April tripartite negotiations in Netanya, U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib met with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir for further talks on Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio said Habib would meet Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin on 13 April in an attempt to resolve outstanding disputes, particularly the future of Major Sa'd Haddad. Earlier, Maj Haddad called on the U.S. and Lebanese Governments to hold direct talks with him about his position in southern Lebanon, according to remarks broadcast by the radio. The Israeli delegation spokesman in Netanya announced in a statement broadcast by the radio that the 12 April talks were "constructive and extremely intensive."

Salim in Jordan — Foreign Minister Elie Salim gave King Husayn a message from President Amin al-Jumayyil concerning the current Arab situation and recent developments in the Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. talks, Amman radio reported.

Security Situation — Two IDF soldiers were killed in an ambush north of Sidon, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation — Iranian forces repulsed and crushed a "fierce" Iraqi armored counteroffensive west of 'Eyn Khosh, Tehran radio reported early on 13 April. Earlier, Iranian and Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Tehran and Baghdad radios respectively confirmed that fighting continued in the Faqih-Maysan border area throughout 12 April. According to the Iraqi communique, the Iraqi Air Force again struck hard at Iranian targets. In another development an Iraqi military spokesman threatened that unless Iran stops shelling Iraqi civilian areas Iraq will mount a "stronger and fiercer" reply, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported. IRNA subsequently reported that the Iraqis intend to resume missile attacks against Iranian border towns. Earlier, Baghdad radio's Persian service warned Iranian soldiers that they face destruction at the front by modern weapons that Iraq has not previously used because of "humanitarian and ethical reasons."

Diplomacy, Comment — Iraqi Foreign Ministry officials briefed ambassadors of Arab countries and of the five permanent UN Security Council member states on the military situation, INA reported. The Iraqi officials called on the Security Council to condemn Iranian "aggression" and implement resolutions to stop the war. Meanwhile, Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the Majlis that since Iran has concluded that neither Iraq nor its supporters are ready to pay the "rightful dues" to Iran, the latter is obliged to continue "the path that we have initiated and the defense that is our right."

Iraq on Oil Slick — Iraq holds Iran "fully responsible" for the problem caused by the oil slick leaking from Nowruz oilfield and reaffirms that arrangements for a partial cease-fire in the affected area must come within a political and military framework that will prevent Iran from exploiting the sitation in order to harm Iraq and tip the balance of power in its favor, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz declared in a statement carried by INA. The Iranians behaved "irresponsibly" at recent meetings of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment and falsely tried to depict the problem as purely technical, Aziz contended.

Syrian-Iranian Relations

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received visiting Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who delivered a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, Damascus radio reported. Velayati had announced earlier in Tehran that he would inform Syrian officials of Iran's recent successes in the war with Iraq, according to IRNA.

Afghanistan

Economic Difficulties — At a Finance Ministry seminar Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand admitted that the country's financial situation has been "seriously affected" by the activities of "counterrevolutionary bands" and their foreign supporters, according to an 11 April BAKHTAR report. Half the country's schools and hospitals have been destroyed, the transportation system is in disarray, 75 percent of the communication lines are out of action, and urgent repair work is needed on power and water supplies, the prime minister said.

Geneva Talks — UN Deputy Secretary General Diego Cordovez held talks with a Soviet official in Geneva concerning the problem of Afghan refugees, according to AFP. Soviet sources in Geneva indicated that the "indirect" talks concentrated solely on the refugee question as a way of beginning secret contacts with the Afghan resistance.

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AFP: 17-18 Apr Fes Summit Postponed Indefinitely

NC131206 Paris AFP in English 1201 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Rabat, April 13 (AFP)—An extraordinary Arab summit scheduled to be held in Fes next Sunday and Monday has been indefinitely postponed, reliable sources reported here today.

An official statement by Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta is expected later in the day, the sources added.

'Emergency' Arab Summit Planned for 25-28 April

GF121835 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Rabat, 12 Apr (WAKH)—Informed Moroccan sources have said that preparations are under way for the emergency Arab summit. They said Morocco insists on convening this summit during April.

The sources have told the WAKH correspondent in Rabat that it is possible the summit will be held between 25 and 28 April after the minor issues which have surfaced in the region are overcome. They said despite the difficulties that arose following the suspension of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue and Syria's reservation about attending the summit, Morocco has prepared to host the summit this month.

The sources said Morocco has fully prepared itself from all sides, beginning with the preparation of comprehensive proposals which will be presented to the forthcoming third summit and ending with the reception ceremonies for Arab leaders. The Moroccan Foreign Ministry has asked the Arab embassies in Rabat for photos of Arab kings, presidents, and amirs, and security organs have been asked to prepare for going to Fes to provide residential protection.

Other Moroccan sources have said that the Moroccan monarch insists on holding the summit, regardless of the difficulties, after receiving a phone call from Reagan yesterday encouraging him to host it. They said during the next 24 hours King Hassan II will again dispatch special envoys to Amman and Damascus to convince them to attend the conference. They noted that these envoys are rumored to be Foreign Minister Boucetta and the Moroccan monarch's adviser, Bensouda.

INA: King Husayn, 'Arafat Said To Meet in Morocco

JN130736 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0728 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Apr (INA)—The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' today cited reliable Moroccan sources as saying that Jordan's King Husayn and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will hold a bilateral summit in Morocco prior to the convocation of the proposed Arab summit on Saturday.

These sources said the meeting is expected to take place on Thursday and will be attended by Moroccan King Hassan II. They added that the Moroccan monarch arranged the meeting after mediating between the two leaders.

Reportage on 'Arafat Visit to Stockholm

For Scandinavian-source accounts of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Stockholm, see the Nordic Affairs section of the 13 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PLO Radio Reports Abu Iyad's Press Statements

JN121800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1720 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, held a press conference in Abu Dhabi in which he said: It was due to Arab weakness that we accepted the Fes plan as an Arab option. But while we were in Fes, some Arabs had their eyes on the Reagan plan, claiming that the Fes plan lacked the mechanism.

Brother Abu Iyad added: You know that the Reagan plan proposed autonomy for the West Bank. But there would be no sovereignty for the Palestinians or Jordanians, only for the Israelis. We, the PLO, have proved that we wanted peace and a just settlement.

Speaking about the meeting between Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and King Husayn, Brother Abu Iyad said: During the last meeting between Brother Abu 'Ammar and King Husayn, Brother Abu 'Ammar presented a plan for discussion with King Husayn. They were supposed to discuss it and then present it to the Palestinian leadership. The main thing is that this did not happen. When Brother Abu 'Ammar returned to the meetings ofthe Palestinian leadership and the [Fatah] Central Committee, we introduced amendments to the text of the plan.

Brother Abu Iyad said: What distinguishes us in the Arab arena is our democracy. The matter does not concern one person but a whole people. It was on this basis that the amendments were made.

Brother Abu Iyad added: The peace initiatives we accept are those which provide for the Palestinian people's inalienable rights to return, determine their destiny, and establish their independent state. There is not a single Palestinian nationalist who accepts the Reagan plan. Our cause is 35 years old and our people are ready to wait another 100 years if no just solutions are obtainable. Our people reject capitulation solutions.

Al-Fahum on Relations With Jordan, PLO Policy

PM122245 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 12 Apr 83 pp 2, 20

[Wahib Muhammad Murad report: "Al-Fahum to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: We Want an International Settlement"]

[Excerpt] There have been Jordanian and Palestinian affirmations that the links between the two sides will continue and that

there will be no estrangement between them. PNC Speaker Khalid al-'Fahum has talked to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT about the PLO'S conditions for a settlement. Salah Khalaf — Abu Iyad — has given details of the dialogue and the agreement which did not materialize. He praised Saudi Arabia's attitude and support for the Palestinian people's rights.

Al-Fahum said that a just settlement of the Middle East question should be based on the UN resolutions and the Fes summit conference resolutions as a minimum. He also stressed that the settlement should be within an international framework not a bilateral or tripartite framework. He said that no just settlement can be achieved through negotiations restricted to the United States and Israel. This is unacceptable, he said.

In a telephone interview with ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Al-Fahum said that the Jordanian statement clearly conveyed the Jordanian concept of a settlement based on the premise that peace moves should be based on the Reagan plan and Resolutions 242 and 338.

The PNC speaker explained that the Palestinian refusal to give Jordan a mandate does not mean rejection of peace because the Palestinian people want and are working for a just peace.

Al-Fahum referred to the PLO'S adherence to the PNC resolutions accepting the Fes resolutions as the minimum requirement in any official Arab move. That is why, on the basis of these resolutions, the U.S. President's plan cannot be accepted as a basis for a just settlement, he added.

Commenting on the Jordanian statement and whether the suspension of the Palestinian-Jordanian negotiations was a loss to the Palestinian people, Al-Fahum said that the real loss would be to abandon the cause. That, he noted, would be a fundamental loss.

He added: I want to emphasize that the PLO is most interested in the liberation and return of the land. The claim that this is considered a secondary matter is untrue because the PLO leadership has given this issue priority.

In reply to a question about the effect of the Jordanian statement on Jordanian-Palestinian relations, he said that the relations with Jordan would be maintained and that Jordan has not said anything to the contrary. In its statement, he said, Jordan stated its position and it expressed support for the PLO. This is something positive and we wish everyone would support it.

Referring to the current moves in preparation for an Arab summit conference, the PNC speaker said that any future summit conference must be based on the Arab peace plan and must be well-prepared because we do not want a summit conference that would abandon the Fes plan.

Meanwhile, in the first official comment on the Jordanian statement, Fatah's second in command Salah Khalaf said at a press conference he held in Abu Dhabi that the talks collapsed because there was an intention to base them on the Reagan plan and Resolutions 242 and 338.

AFP: Ilan Halevi Terms Himself Anti-Zionist

NC121645 Paris AFP in English 1632 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Paris, April 12 (AFP)—Franco-Israeli journalist Ilan Halevi, who has been named by Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to replace 'Isam as-Sartawi, today told French television that he had been working with the PLO "for the past five or six years."

Mr Halevi replaced 'Isam as-Sartawi, who was killed in a southern Portuguese hotel Sunday as he readied to attend a session of the Socialist International. Mr Halevi is the first Israeli to conduct an official mission for the PLO.

The journalist, who has dual nationality, described himself to France's TF-1 television network as "a militant anti-Zionist who rejects Zionism as a political philosophy." He said he was "convinced... that the future of Palestinian Jews depends on a true, deep and basic reconciliation with the Palestinian people."

Although he was considered by most Israelis as "a traitor," Mr Halevi said, "a growing minority" believed he was right.

"Israel and the PLO are in a state of war," Mr Halevi told TF-1, "and technically, I could be accused of high treason" by Israeli officials.

BRIEFS

LOAN TO JORDAN — Amman, 12 Apr (WAKH)—An agreement was signed in Amman today whereby the Islamic Development Bank will share in the financing of the Jordanian company for producing and manufacturing wood with a loan of 600,000 Jordanian dinars. On the bank's behalf, the agreement was signed by its director, Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali, and on the Jordanian company's behalf it was signed by the chairman of its board of directors, Ziyad 'Itab. [Text] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1410 GMT 12 Apr 83 GF]

KUWAIT

Report on Kuwaiti Official's Talks in U.S.

LD130954 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0736 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Washington 13 Apr (KUNA) The Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid last night handed a message from the amir of Kuwait to President Ronald Reagan.

After 2 days of talks with senior officers in the American Administration and members of Congress, Ar-Rashid had a meeting with deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam and handed him a message for the American President. The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Ambassador to the United States Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir As-Sabah.

Ar-Rashid told KUNA after the meeting that his talks with American officials were successful. He expressed hope that Kuwaiti efforts to end the Gulf war under UN auspices would produce successful results.

Ar-Rashid, who left Washington for home immediately after delivering the message, transmitted a similar message to Soviet President Yuriy Andropov. Kuwaiti diplomats transmitted similar messages to Britain, France, and China, all permanent members of the Security council.

The Kuwaiti official had talks with both the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, Charles Percy, and the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives Clement Zablocki.

He also held a meeting last night with the assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, Nicholas Veliotes.

Ar-Rashid told KUNA that his talks with these officials dealt with the situation in the Middle East and the peace initiatives currently presented on the Arab arena.

He stated that he reiterated to these officials Kuwait's firm posture on these subjects; that peace cannot be established in the Middle East without recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, their right to self-determination, and to the establishment of their independent state on their own land.

He added that he stressed to them that those in the region flying in the face ofjustice were not the Arabs but the Israelis who rejected Arab [words indistinct] and the American peace initiative, in addition, Israel is still occupying part of Lebanese territory.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, Ar-Rashid said "We must help our brethren in Iran and Iraq settle the dispute which [words indistinct] the two countries only but all the countries of the Gulf region."

SAUDI ARABIA

SPA: Gulf Television Official on Cooperation

LD121313 Riyadh SPA in English 1929 GMT 11 Apr 83

[Text] Riyadh, 11 Apr (SPA)—A Gulf news reel will be aired daily by the Gulf TV which will start its transmission as soon as the Arab space satellite is launched in 1984, Director-General of the Gulf TV Sa'ud Dahlawi said here today.

In an exclusive interview with SPA, Mr Dahlawi said Gulf TV would make use of the current potential of the Saudi TV in issuing a Gulf TV magazine with topics and features from all Gulf TV broadcasting stations, he said.

Gulf TV is doing its best to establish cooperation among TV personnel in all Arab Gulf states and exchange know-how among them, Mr Dahlawi said.

The Gulf TV has drawn up a plan to collect Arab Gulf scripts and works which can be turned into a joint or bilateral Arab Gulf production, he said.

Mr Dahlawi said Gulf Television was giving prime concern to promote coordination among Arab Gulf TV stations on the basis of the divine faith and Arab as well as Islamic cultures.

Arab Television programmes such as the weekly Gulf Evening, sports, and the recent Arab cultural week in Paris, were organised by the Gulf TV, he added.

The TV has worked out a plan to make full use of the Arab satellite in airing joint Gulf programmes, he said.

Accords have been signed with world bodies such as the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and UNESCO regarding technical and information cooperation, Mr Dahlawi added.

The TV offered an up-to-date information on TV techniques to personnel working in Arab Gulf TV stations, he said.

UAE

Salah Khalaf Affirms 'Deep-Rooted' Jordan Ties

GF121449 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1350 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 12 Apr (WAKH)—Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has asserted that Palestinian-Jordanian relations are relations between two peoples who are linked through deep-rooted pan-Arab relations and a common fate.

WAM quotes Abu Iyad as saying that the relations between the two sides "are not a product of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's plan. We refuse to allow the Reagan plan to be the link between

Jordan and us," he said.

Abu Iyad reiterated the PLO'S rejection of the plan and said it does not call for a Palestinian state in the present or the future and it does not fulfill the Palestinian people's firm and legitimate rights. He said the PLO will not allow any party to take part in the negotiations on behalf of the Palestinian people.

Concluding, Abu Iyad said this spring will be hot because of the Zionist military provocations in Lebanon.

Mubarak Returns to Cairo from Asian Tour 12 Apr
NC121650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1640 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 12 Apr (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak returned to Cairo from Islamabad at 1830 following a 12-day Asian tour during which he held important discussions with the heads of state and government of the PRC, DPRK, Japan, Indonesia, and Pakistan. The discussions covered all political, economic, and cultural fields and the relations between Egypt and these states.

After descending from the plane, President Mubarak greeted the senior state officials present to welcome him back. President Mubarak then replied to newsmen's questions. Commenting on the failure of the Amman talks between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat, he said: I spoke with President Reagan this morning on this subject, and I think that they must be given more time to think in depth before arriving at conclusions regarding this subject. President Mubarak expressed the hope that the two sides will conclude an assessment of the situation in the coming few days.

Replying to a question on what President Reagan told him, President Mubarak said: President Reagan informed me that he still adheres to his principles and hopes that they will reach a conclusion on the participation of the Palestinians and the Jordanians in the peace negotaitions. Otherwise, it will be a great loss.

Asked whether he thinks Egypt can still play a big role in the peace process, President Mubarak said that Egypt will always have a big role in the peace process.

Comments on Jordan, PLO
NC130627 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has declared that what has been said about the suspension of talks between Jordan and the PLO is inaccurate and there is still hope for reaching an agreement between the PLO and King Husayn. The president added: If such an agreement is not reached, I think a quick solution for the Palestinian problem will be difficult.

Last night, upon his arrival in Egypt, President Mubarak said there was a telephone conversation between him and U.S. President Reagan during President Mubarak's stay in Pakistan. The call touched upon means of accelerating peace in the Middle East area.

Mubarak Denies Appointments, Cabinet Reshuffle
NC120629 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2335 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 12 Apr (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has denied an Arab newspaper report that he will shortly issue a decree appointing two vice presidents and that he will reshuffle the cabinet.

In statements to be published by AL-AKHBAR in its Wednesday edition, President Mubarak says this issue is absolutely not being contemplated now. The president adds: A vice president will not be appointed until 1 year or more passes. We are not in a hurry.

AL-AKHBAR says President Mubarak has told the news papers' chief editors that he does not know where some people get these rumors because he is really not contemplating this issue at present and he has nothing to hide from the people.

Ghali Calls for Continued Mideast Dialogue
NC121936 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Washington, 12 Apr (MENA)—Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has called for the continuation of the dialogue in the interest of the cause of peace in the Middle East, warning that the alternative to this dialogue will be an alliance of [Arab] rejection and Israeli extremism against the moderates on both sides. He added that this will lead to returning the area to the situation that prevailed before As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem.

In a lecture he gave at Georgetown University in Washington last night in response to an invitation from the contemporary Arab Studies Center, Dr Ghali said that what happened during the past few days and Jordan's declaration that it will not join the expanded negotiations indicate that the area is approaching a new crisis.

He pointed out that this crisis could result in the deterioration of the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to the weakening of the U.S. role at a time when Soviet diplomacy is diligently acting under the new Soviet leadership — matter that gives a new dimension to the Middle East situation.

He called in this respect for action to preserve the peace process and the continuation of current efforts to attract the moderates and contain the extremists whether they are Arabs or from the PLO and Israel.

In presenting the Egyptian viewpoint, Dr Butrus Ghali said that it will be difficult for Jordan and the Palestinians to participate in the peace negotiations without some indication of the start of an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. He added that the Israeli rejection of President Reagan's initiative and Israel's continuing to build settlements in the West Bank, in addition to the negative effects of the Israeli military presence in Lebanon, have led to a further deterioration of the situation.

Dr Ghali described Israel's invasion of Lebanon as a violation of the letter and spirit of the Camp David accords, which call for repudiating war in the area.

Communique Updates 12 April War Operations

JN121724 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1635 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,059 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 12 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Taste ye then the penalty, because ye rejected faith [Koranic verse]

Sons of beloved Iraq, the staunch fighters of our valiant Armed Forces, we greet your intrepid combat spirit and your chivalry and loyalty to the beloved homeland and its sacred soil. By God, you are heroic men because you have added to history brilliant pages of courage, sacrifice, and glory. During the battles of the past 2 days, you have made the evil Khomeyniite enemy experience the bitter taste of humiliation and torture and have inflicted on its forces and remnants the heaviest losses in human life and equipment.

You are now carrying out daring and valiant battles and are pounding the enemy forces which the Iranian regime had pushed forward to desperately attack part of our IV Army Corps units in the Maysan operational theater. You have destroyed the majority of these forces, not to mention those who fled the battlefield humiliated, or those who were captured to save themselves from certain death at the hands of the courageous men of Iraq. You have transformed the battlefield into a large graveyard that has swallowed up the corpses of those who were killed, along with enemy tanks and military hardware. We shall account for these losses after counting them at a later date, God willing. Our daring aircraft and helicopters played an important role today in support of our ground units in attacking the enemy and pursuing its defeated remnants who fled from the battlefield.

They performed well, and since this morning, they have been carrying out fierce and intensive raids against enemy units, troops concentrations, and tanks, particularly in the areas opposite our forward units' positions in the Maysan operational theater and against vital military targets deep inside enemy territory in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring accurate and effective hits. A state of confusion and terror prevailed over the enemy as a result of the successful combat missions of our aircraft today. Our aircraft carried out 71 combat missions today. All our aircraft and helicopters returned safely to base, thanks be to God.

As for the activities of our forces in the other sectors, they are as follows:

One of our forward units struck an enemy force which last night tried to approach its forward positions in the central sector of the battlefield, forcing it to retreat after killing 21, and wounding many. Six were also killed and several infantry positions and weapons emplacements destroyed in the same sector.

As for the northern sector, our forward units engaged an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions with all types of weapons, killing nine and destroying one tank and four personnel positions. One was also killed and three weapons and personnel emplacements were destroyed in the area east of Basra.

The artillery of the criminal Khomeyniite clique today pursued its shelling of Basra and its suburbs, wounding five civilians and destroying one house.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 April 1983

Two Naval Targets Destroyed

JN131014 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0956 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The reconnaissance units of our heroic naval force noticed enemy naval and air activity northeast of the Arab Gulf and in the zone we have previously declared a military operations zone. Last night the enemy tried to take advantage of the battle being waged in the Maysan operation sector by desperately attempting a hostile naval operation by which it could compensate for the massivematerial and human losses it has sustained as well as its successive defeats in the said sector at the hands of Iraq's heroic soldiers.

Two large enemy naval targets tried to approach our coasts in the said area. Our heroic naval force confronted them, directly hit and completely destroyed them. The two targets were seen ablaze and sinking in the lofty Arab Gulf waters. 13 april 1983

Minister Warns Iran Not to Shell Civilian Targets

JN131002 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Apr (INA) — Latif Nusayyif Jasim, Iraqi culture and information minister, has said that Iraq is running out of patience with the Tehran rulers' failure to respond to its calls for refraining from shelling its populated towns and civilian establishments and will justify a fierce Iraqi reply to this shelling.

In a statement to INA tonight, the minister said that Iraq has, since the beginning of the war, avoided striking Iranian civilian targets out of its commitment to ethical and humanitarian principles. He noted that Iraq had further adhered to these principles after the Iranian opposition [movement] had requested it to abstain from direct deterrent action.

He indicated that Iraq had addressed several calls and warnings to the Tehran rulers through various means to stop shelling civilian targets which led to the martyrdom of civilians, particularly women, children, and the elderly. The minister stressed that the continuation of [word indistinct] will prompt Iraq to carry out its previous warning by responding to this shelling in the appropriate manner and with the means available to it.

Armed Forces Commanders Ridicule Iranian Claims

JN121942 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1835 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Apr (INA) — The commanders of the three brigades which the Iranian regime claimed to have destroyed during its forces' aggression against the IV Army Corps sector

in the Maysan operational theater, have affirmed that the morale of their forces is high and that they are continuing to inflict heavy losses on the enemy.

In a statement to the INA team in the central sector, the commander of the 419th Brigade ridiculed the Iranian claims and said that they were not new. He said that the Iranian regime had previously claimed that it had destroyed this brigade in the battles that took place in [word indistinct] Ahvaz, east of Basra and Ash-Shib, and that it is repeating these claims for the fourth time.

The commander of the 108th Brigade described the claims of the Iranian regime as part of a series of lies known by every one.He stressed that his brigade had repulsed the Iranian forces and shattered the dreams of Khomeyni and his mercenaries when his forces dealt forceful blows to the enemy forces and inflicted heavy losses on them.

One of the commanders of the 51st Brigade said that his forces continue to pursue the defeated Iranian forces. He added: This proves the falsehood of the Iranian claims. He said that the members of the 51st Brigade are ready to destroy any new Iranian aggression.

The commanders of these brigades pledged on behalf of their forces to remain loyal to their leader Saddam Husayn and to the Iraqi command and to continue defending the sacred Iraqi soil.

Arab, Other Ambassadors Briefed on War Developments

JN121745 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Apr (INA) — Iraq has briefed the fraternal Arab countries on the developments of the last Iranian aggression against the Iraqi territories, stressing that the initiative is still, as it has always been, in the hands of the Iraqi forces which have inflicted heavy losses on the Iranian forces.

This came during the meeting 'Abd al-Malik Yasin, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary, held today with heads of the Arab diplomatic missions in Baghdad.

The Iraqi official asserted that the new Iranian aggression is another link in the chain of the Iranian regime's expansionist practices against Iraq. He explained that Iraq was expecting such aggression because it is convinced of the Iranian rulers' determination to continue their aggressive and expansionist policy and turn down all peaceful initiatives.

Iraq today also summoned the ambassadors of the five permanent member of the UN Security Council and briefed them on the developments of the military situation on the Iraq-Iran front and on the Iraqi success in defeating the Iranian aggression.

Iraq urged these states to shoulder their responsibilities in accordance with the UN Charter, to honor the UN Security Council's duty to condemn aggression, and to implement the three UN Security Council's resolutions that have been unanimously adopted to stop the Iraq-Iran war.

Speaking in the meeting, 'Ismat Kittani, the Foreign Ministry under secretary, stressed to the five ambassadors that Iraq is highly capable of confronting the Iranian regime's aggression and expansionist policy.

It is known that the USSR, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and the PRC are permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Daily Discloses King Husayn's Message to Reagan

JN130832 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 13 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] Amman, AR-RA'Y—Informed sources said that Jordan has informed the United States of the results of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks which did not reach an agreement on political action toward finding a just solution to the Middle East crisis on the basis of President Reagan's initiative and other political initiatives.

AR-RA'Y has learned that His Majesty King Husayn has sent a message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan in which he explained Jordan's viewpoint regarding the U.S. initiative and the present attitude toward it. The king pointed out that the United States' nonrecognition of the PLO was one of the reasons that hindered reaching an agreement on a joint Palestinian-Jordanian move. Moreover, the U.S. position on Lebanon's negotiations with Israel regarding the withdrawal from Lebanese territories did not reflect U.S. concern for Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. The slow process of the current negotiations affirms that the United States has not exerted enough pressure on Israel to withdraw.

The message also indicated that there must be international participation with the United States and the concerned parties in order to reach a comprehensive, just, and permanent settlement of the Middle East crisis.

Finally, Israeli intransigence and insistence on establishing new settlements, confiscating lands, evicting the inhabitants, and practicing oppressive and repressive measures against the citizens and their holy places, have all reflected negatively on the efforts being exerted for a settlement. It also generated a feeling of Arab and Palestinian mistrust concerning the move toward a peaceful solution based on Reagan's initiative.

King Husayn Confers With Lebanese Envoy 12 April

JN121726 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim, who conveyed to his majesty a message from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil on the new situation in the Arab arena and the recent developments of the Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. talks on the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanese territories.

His Majesty King Husayn expressed to the Lebanese minister Jordan's support for Lebanon's efforts to achieve national unity and reestablish its legitimate authority over the entire Lebanese territory.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim and the Lebanese ambassador in Amman.

King Husayn Receives Francis Pym 12 Apr

JN121712 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon Francis Pym, British secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs. The meeting was attended by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and the foreign and information ministers. It was also attended by the delegation accompanying Francis Pym and the British ambassador in Amman.

Press Statement, Departure

JN122104 Amman Domestic Television Service in English 2000 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has reviewed recent Middle East developments with British Foreign Secretary Mr Francis Pym. During the meeting at An-Nadwah Palace, his majesty briefed the British foreign secretary on Jordanian policy and stressed the need for an effective British and EEC role to end the Israeli occupation and halt the Israeli settlement activities in the occupied West Bank.

Other international issues as well as bilateral relations also came under discussion during the meeting.

Attending the meeting were the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the army's commander in chief, the minister of information, the foreign minister,and members of the delegation accompanying Mr Pym and the British ambassador here in Amman.

Before departing after his brief visit to Amman, Mr Pym praised his majesty the king's efforts to reach peace in the Middle East:

[Begin videotape recording] We discussed the Arab-Israel problem during my visit to Amman last October and twice in London since then. We have agreed all along that there were three priorities: the withdrawal of Israeli and other foreign forces from the Lebanon; a freeze on settlements in the West Bank; and the opening of negotiations using the Reagan plan as a starting point.

It is discouraging to note that 7 months after the Fes summit and President Reagan's announcement, Israeli forces are still in Lebanon, the Israeli settlement program has accelerated,and the peace process is not yet got off the ground.

In Britain we are full of admiration for the energy and resolve with which King Husayn has sought Arab agreement and in particular, Palestinian agreement for starting the negotiations. We support him fully in his efforts. Thanks to his statesmanship, a good deal of progress has been made in this direction.

The events of the last week do not alter the simple reality that there is no feasible alternative to using the Reagan plan despite the reservations that many countries feel about it as the starting point for the peace process. This is an opportunity which will not recur and will not exist much longer. The question is whether the opportunity will be seized or not. This places a heavy onus on others.

First, it is essential that there should be progress on the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon. Israel must do more to back up its claim that it wants to withdraw and is willing to respect Lebanese sovereignty. It is also unacceptable that Israel should press ahead with its settlement program.

Second, the Arab world needs to bring to a conclusion the promising work begun and developed at Fes during King Husayn's negotiations with Yasir 'Arafat.

I will soon be discussing these issues with my European colleagues and will remain in touch with the Arab governments concerned, particularly with Jordan. I will also consult with the United States whose role in the Lebanon talks and in any negotiations on the Arab-Israel dispute remains central. But the spotlight of world opinion is on the Israeli Government and the PLO. Time is now at a premium. It is essential that the forces of moderation carry the day.

Thank you ladies and gentlemen. [end recording]

Reportage on 13 April Negotiations in Khaldah

Habib To Replace Draper

NC130857 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0835 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Khaldah—live]

[Text] The 29th round of negotiations among Lebanon, the United States, and Israel for ensuring the withdrawals is expected to be held in Khaldah today. It appears that there will be a delay in holding the session. Possibly there will be side consultations pending the arrival of Ambassador Philip Habib in Beirut from Israel after his meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. In Khaldah strict security measures were adopted today in the Lebanon Beach Hotel area. Ambassador Philip Habib will participate in the talks in the absence of Ambassador Morris Draper, who is currently in Washington to convey the Lebanese and Israeli answers to the latest proposals presented by U.S. presidential envoy Ambassador Habib. The contacts will continue with Washington to keep it informed of today's round of negotiations.

Habib Joins Negotiations

NC131048 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1020 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry Mission in Khaldah—live]

[Text] Ambassador Philip Habib arrived at the Lebanon Beach Hotel in Khaldah, where the tripartite negotiations are being held, at 1145 today. He joined the negotiators in their unofficial 29th round of talks.

Answering a question about the extent of his optimism over the progress of the negotiations, Ambassador Habib told newsmen: I am always optimistic. Answering another question, Ambassador Habib said he will meet with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil tonight.

Spokesman's Statement

NC131138 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1120 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Khaldah—live]

[Text] The tripartite negotiations, in which U.S. presidential envoy Ambassador Philip Habib is participating, will be resumed after lunch. The Lebanese delegation's official spokesman, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, made the following statement:

[Begin recording] The session of the mini-committee, which was attended by the delegation heads and Ambassador Philip Habib, adjourned now. At this meeting, the first reading of the Lebanese draft agreement was read out. However, the supplements of the draft agreement were not studied yet. There will be another reading. Normally in negotiations there are several readings of draft agreements. The first reading was concluded today. Subsequently a comprehensive discussion took place concerning the difficulties facing the agreement, including the question of Maj Sa'd Haddad. [end recording]

Pazner on Progress

NC131227 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1150 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Khaldah—live]

[Excerpt] Israeli official spokesman Avi Pazner outlined that the negotiators continued their discussions in a positive and constructive spirit and that various clauses of the future agreement between Israel and Lebanon were studied. He said the Israeli side raised the question of security in southern Lebanon and Major Sa'd Haddad's future. Pazner said the Israeli delegation feels the work is progressing well and the talks will be resumed this afternoon and tomorrow here in Khaldah with Ambassador Philip Habib's participation after he has concluded his meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, Foreign Minister Shamir, and Defense Minister Arens.

Pazner concluded by saying that Ambassador Habib is helping the negotiators considerably, affirming that the conferees today discussed the Lebanese draft agreement on which the work is focused.

Talks Resume After Break

NC131243 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1238 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Khaldah—live]

[Text] At 1430 today after the lunch break, the delegation members returned to the conference hall to resume the negotiations. It appears the delegates are now holding side consultations, after which the session will be resumed.

Salim Returns From Amman, Makes Statement

NC131043 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim returned to Beirut a short while ago from Amman after conveying a message from President Amin al-Jumayyil to King Husayn. At the airport Minister Salim made the following statement to our correspondent Darwish 'Ammar:

[Begin recording] [Salim] In fact, it was necessary to meet with his majesty the king and with the foreign minister to get acquainted with the actual talks held between the [Palestinian] resistance and Jordan since October. These talks reached a sensitive phase and an important point in the history of the Middle East question. I believe that we are now passing through

a phase of reappraising some stances, hoping that we will soon reach a solution to this dilemma which the resistance and the Kingdom [of Jordan] find themselves in. There are outlets and exits which both sides can benefit from.

His majesty the king acquainted us will all the details. We appreciate the difficulties facing these talks and hope that a stance will be reached to achieve both sides' goals. Naturally, there is some relation but no connection between the Palestinian question and the Lebanese question. We believe U.S. credibility is put to a test and Lebanon is the testing field. If there is hope for President Reagan's Middle East initiative to succeed, he should first succeed in Lebanon. Lebanon is also a testing ground for Arab intentions. Lebanon is likewise the testing ground for a unified Arab decision on whether or not there should be a rational decision aimed at achieving the national goals of all the parties in the Arab world.

We are certain that the Arab world will support Lebanon in this phase and that the unified Arab decision will be with Lebanon. We are also confident that President Reagan's initiative will receive a new thrust so that it will succeed in Lebanon and so that it will have an effect on the Middle East question later—not now but later.

We also expect that all Arab intentions will be clear and sincere toward Lebanon so that there will be rational unified Arab stances aimed at serving civilization and progress in this area. We have reached a phase in our contemporary history in which we need a new political language, new political codes, and new clear political national stands. I believe Lebanon is honestly defending all these questions with dignity and without any hidden objectives. We hope all the Arab states will support Lebanon in this phase.

['Ammar] After the failure of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, do you believe that an extraordinary summit conference will convene as called for by Morocco and how does the talks' failure reflect upon the situation in Lebanon and in the area?

[Salim] I do not believe it is permissible to say that the talks between Jordan and the resistance have failed but they have reached a difficult phase. I believe that it is possible to reappraise the stances and to subsequently adopt a new approach in the near future, God willing. Regarding the convening of a summit, naturally every Arab summit must now be convened for a specific goal and for a subject that can be discussed in a positive way. It is difficult to say now that there are subjects which can be raised with objectivity and positiviness and with the purpose of obtaining beneficial purposes now. Therefore, it might be premature to convene an Arab summit now. However, the possibility of holding an Arab summit after some Arab stances are clarified might be beneficial and rather necessary. However, I now believe it is a bit late.

['Ammar] A final question,Mr Minister. There are two events that preoccupied the political circles yesterday: Ambassador Philip Habib's participation in the tripartite negotiations and Ambassador Draper's sudden departure for Washington. In your opinion, how will these two events reflect upon the situation in Lebanon, on the negotiations and on speeding up the withdrawals from Lebanon?

[Salim] The two events were expected. Ambassador Draper informed us a week ago that he would go to Washington until the end of this week and that Ambassador Habib will assume some field work in his place. Therefore, what happened was a natural thing. I believe that the negotiations, as you know, are proceeding along their natural course. We hope they will soon end with new things, God willing. [end recording]

VOH Cites Major Haddad's BBC Interview

NC130832 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Excerpt] In a report yesterday, the BBC'S correspondent quotes sources close to the Lebanese negotiating delegation as saying they do not feel that positive results will be achieved soon. The correspondent says one of the obstacles is that Israel insists that Major Sa'd Haddad should have a role in future security arrangements in southern Lebanon.

The BBC said that in an interview with its correspondent, Maj Haddad yesterday complained that the delegations attending the negotiations have not consulted him concerning the future. In the course of the interview, Maj Haddad said unless he is officially consulted he will accept no agreement concluded between Israel and Lebanon. Maj Haddad added that he wants to be a military governor in southern Lebanon. Maj Haddad expressed his conviction that his presence in the area is regarded as an essential vital matter to Lebanon. Maj Haddad said the people want him to continue in his duties.

Syrian Military Buildup in Al-Biqa' Area

NC121836 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Our radio correspondent in Al-Biqa' reports that Syrian vehicular concentrations have been seen in points and positions along the Al-Biqa' Valley. He adds that columns of T-72 tanks fill these places, particularly in As-Safra and along the Qabb Ilyas-Al-Masna' line, where T-48 and T-64 tanks have been added. This is the first defense line in the confrontation of the Israeli forces.

The reports say that the Syrian tanks are in continuous motion. Bulldozers have been seen digging trenches for the tanks and Palestinians have been observed moving behind the first defense line between artillery emplacements which they have installed in Sa'd Nayil and its vicinity.

The reports further say that there are parallel Israeli preparations opposite the first defense line in the direction of the western Al-Biqa'. The reports point out that the Israeli forces are firing flares over the Syrian and Palestinian military positions every night.

According to press reports from the township of Shtawrah, Soviet experts were today seen with Syrian officers buying goods from a shop in Shtawrah.

Hafiz Al-Asad Receives Iran's Velayati 12 April

JN121838 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] At 1600 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, foreign minister and deputy prime minister; Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, director general of the Iranian Foreign Ministry (title as heard); and 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Iran's ambassador in Damascus.

Further on Velayati Meeting

JN121938 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] At 1600 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, director general of the Iranian Foreign Ministry [title as heard]; and 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Iran's ambassador in Damascus.

Dr Velayati conveyed a message to the president from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i and greetings from the Iranian leadership. The president accepted the greetings with appreciation and asked the minister to convey similar greetings to the Iranian leadership.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

PDRY Foreign Minister Leaves Damascus 12 April

JN121233 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, PDRY minister for foreign affairs, left Damascus this morning after delivering a message to President Hafiz al-Asad last night from President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. He was seen off at Damascus airport byFaruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs and director of the Arab Homeland desk at the Foreign Ministry, and the PDRY ambassador in Damascus.

Damascus Radio on Failure of Jordanian-PLO Talks

JN121814 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Station commentary]
[Text] Anyone following the U.S. statements that followed the Jordanian Government's announcement on severing its contacts with the PLO, which insisted on rejecting Reagan's plan and adhering to the PNC resolutions and the recent Fes summit principles, will clearly discover the state of confusion that the U.S. Administration is experiencing following the strategic setback it sustained as a result of its failure to replace the Fes Summit resolutions with the Reagan plan and thus expand the Camp David circle. Despite his disappointment over the current failure of his initiative , Reagan still claims that this initiative is not dead. U.S. Secretary of State Shultz said that President Reagan insists on rescuing his initiative, and that Washington will not suspend its efforts to achieve the settlement that it wants in the region. Between disappointment and hope, Washington did not forget to make threats by stressing that it will achieve its objectives by using different methods. Can these methods be anything other than the use of more pressures and launching more aggressions against the Arabs to impose its hegemony on the region?

The strategic setback to which Reagan's initiative has been exposed, has confirmed a number of facts:

1. The failure of the wager that Washington alone can determine the future of the region.

2. The capitulation course, which is supported by the United States and the forces that are linked to it in the region,does not possess any foundations to be the alternative to the pan-Arab commitment of not relinquishing Arab rights — and that a just peace must be based on the liberation of all the occupied Arab territories and the safeguarding of the Palestinian people's national rights, including the establishment of their independent state.

3. Syria's stand as asserted by leader Hafiz al-Asad, which does not allow the liquidation of the Palestine question and the imposition of capitulation on the Arabs, is the effective embodiment of the Arab masses' will to determine the future of the region by destroying all conspiracies and foiling all suspect plans that aim at subjugating the Arabs and bringing them within the circle of Zionist-U.S. influence and control.

4. The steadfastness of Syria, and the firmness of its pan-Arab political line in confronting the Zionist-U.S. onslaught, and its emphasis on the need to adopt an Arab stand in the face of the capitulation course, has foiled the scheme whose objective was to create a new deterioration in the Arab situation by having other Arab parties join the negotiations with the enemy.

In light of these facts brought about by the conflict, the United States would be making a big mistake if it imagines that the Arab region is a vital field on which it can impose the course it wants. Washington has imagined that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon will remove all obstacles from the way of its settlement plan, but facts have shown that the confrontation line represented by Syria is too strong and solid to be uprooted by aggression. Moreover, this course is the one that has stiffened the Arab stand and given it great international support, especially by the forces of socialism and progression the world, foremost among which is the friendly USSR.

Today, when Washington speaks about new opportunities and methods it will seek to remedy the gap in its strategy, and when it seeks to attack the PLO because it rejected Reagan's plan and adhered to the recent PNC resolutions, it possesses only the

threat to commit aggression after its policy has suffered a strategic setback. it imagined that its encouragement to the PLO to practice moderation would hang the Reagan plan around the neck of the Palestinian people.

In short, U.S. plans for hegemony will not pass in the Arab region. The disappointment in Washington is an indication of the failure of U.S. attempts to generalize the capitulation course to apply to all Arabs. It is also an indication of the triumph of Arab steadfastness.

As-Sa'iqah Denounces Jordanian Statement

JN121758 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The Popular Liberation War Vanguards Organization — As-Sa'iqah — has denounced the Jordanian Government statement and the suspect role of Jordan in the U.S. liquidatory plan. An official source in As-Sa'iqah declared that the PNC determined in its recent session the nature of the future relationship between an independent Palestinian state and Jordan. Thus, the road was blocked to the Jordanian regime to prevent it from exploiting this relationship in order to liquidate the Palestine question. Therefore, the talks were expected to end the way they did.

The official source also condemned the clear threatening tone of the Jordanian statement, which was aimed at our Palestinian Arab people in Palestine and Jordan. The As-Sa'iqah forces called for confronting Jordanian intentions and the liquidatory attempts through more Palestinian-Syrian solidarity as was stressed by the PNC in its recent session.

The official source concluded by stressing that the Palestinian Arab people are capable of revealing and foiling all U.S.- Jordanian designs, and that the people will continue to adhere to their homeland and their sole and legitimate representative, the PLO, regardless of pressures and threats.

U.S. To Push for Progress in Lebanon

TA130530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Our correspondent in Washington expects that the United States will make a real effort now to push for an agreement in Lebanon in order to change the impression of defeat because of Husayn's decision not to join the peace process. Our correspondent says that the administration does not intend to act immediately to renew the peace process, but it hopes that if envoy Habib has success in Lebanon, it will be possible to use this success to try again to make other elements in the Arab world join the political process.

Habib Meets With Shamir, Begin on Talks

Meeting With Shamir

TA121719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Report from the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Text] Official Foreign Ministry sources again sounded optimistic this evening, and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir noted in his meeting with Philip Habib the progress made in the negotiations. However, a few points of disagreement remain between the parties. There is no agreement on leaving Major Sa'd Haddad at the head of his forces in southern Lebanon and as the person responsible for local security; there is no agreement on stationing two UNIFIL battalions in the Tyre and Sidon refugee camps; and there is no agreement on the normalization arrangements [sidurey] that will be in effect between the two countries after the IDF'S withdrawal.

Still the general feeling is that an agreement will soon be signed between Israel and Lebanon, with the United States as guarantor. The foreign minister asked that the main effort in the negotiations now concentrate on resolving the disputed points. Israeli spokesmen said this evening that Habib did not present any U.S. ideas for the arrangement. Shamir again asked what is known about the Syrians' and the PLO'S plans, and whether they intend to leave. As always, Habib replied: The Lebanese are still telling us that this will indeed happen.

Israeli sources pointed out this evening that Shamir and Habib did not discuss the situation in the area following Husayn's refusal to join the peace process, and instead focused on the specifics of the negotiations with Lebanon.

One could only hope that during their meeting tomorrow, Habib and Prime Minister Menahem Begin will find a way to effect a breakthrough of some sort on the disputed issues that preempt an agreement. Otherwise, the negotiators will continue to alternate between Netanya and Khaldah for a long time.

More on Meeting

TA121827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] In Jerusalem tonight, President Reagan's special representative, Philip Habib, met with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. David Essing reports:

[Essing] Ambassador Philip Habib did not refer to Jordan's refusal to join the peace process and the Israeli and American sides concentrated on Lebanon. After participating in today's round of talks in Netanya, Habib was impressed that progress was being made. Habib did not bring any new American ideas on how to overcome the remaining problems, such as the status of militia leader Major Sa'd Haddad in southern Lebanon and the degree of mutual relations.

Shamir reiterated how vital it was to keep Maj Haddad and his men in the south. In light of the progress that has been made, Israel's foreign minister wanted to know where the Syrians and the PLO stand on evacuating Lebanon. On the working level, Shamir suggested listing an exact inventory of the remaining issues and that the sides then make a major effort to resolve them.

Tomorrow the American envoy sees Prime Minister Begin in Jerusalem. Habib will th[illegible]ly to Khaldah, Lebanon, to take part in tomorrow's negotiatio[illegible]filling in for Morris Draper, who is out of the area. In Beirut, Habib will be meeting with Lebanese leaders.

Meeting With Begin

TA130550 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Philip Habib will meet this morning with the prime minister and attempt and settle some of the disputes in Lebanon. The defense minister and the foreign minister will also take part in this meeting. Our political correspondent thinks that they will mainly discuss the future of Haddad and his forces.

Sources close to the negotiations say that Lebanon has agreed to establish operation centers [merkazey mivtza'im] in the security zones from where the joint military committee of the two countries will supervise the security arrangements. It has not yet been decided where those centers will be located.

As for normalization, Israel demands that Lebanon sign an interim agreement and in addition agree to a detailed defining of the items in the permanent agreement, which the sides will negotiate 6 months after the IDF withdrawal.

Rabin Comments on Syrian, Soviet Strategy

TA121230 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1105 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] I cannot see a Syrian or Soviet reason now for military conflagration on the Syrian border. This was stated today by MK Yitzhaq Rabin during a seminar held in memory of Lieutenant General David El'azar [the Yom Kippur war chief of staff]. MK

Rabin estimates that Jordan's refusal tojoin the negotiations is a first-rate political achievement for Syria. Our correspondent Alon Disqin has his remarks:

[Begin Rabin recording] This is an impressive achievement, since the Soviet-Syrian strategic objective is to prevent the continuation of the peace process led by the United States, with Israel and Egypt forming the cornerstones and Jordan joining in. From a political and strategic point of view, this serves as a first-rate target for destruction as far as the Soviets and Syrians are concerned. [end recording]

West Bank Settlement Drive To Begin 'Next Week'
TA121406 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] A large-scale settlement campaign will begin next week in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. The organizers hope that within 1 and ½ years some 20,000 Jews will come to settle in Samaria, Gush 'Ezyon, the Hebron Hills, the Binyamin district, and the Gaza coast. Details about the campaign were released at a press conference in Tel Aviv today, from which our correspondent Mikha Friedman has returned.

[Friedman] There has not been such a large-scale settlement campaign since the movement of people from the city to the village in the 1950's. Sixty-eight settlements in Samaria, Gush 'Ezyon, the Hebron hills, the Gaza coast, and the Binyamin district are awaiting some 20,000 Jews who will come to live there within 1 and ½ years. Deputy Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ben-Tziyon Rubin said that this is a storming of all Eretz Yisra'el. This settlement campaign is the fitting Zionist response to President Reagan and King Husayn who want to take Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip away from us.

[Begin Rubin rec ding] We want to encourage Jews to settle Judaea and Samaria, and then the political controversy will be completely different. Every Jew who settles today, instead of tomorrow or the next day, creates another fact and another foothold in Judaea and Samaria, strengthens our ownership of the areas, and increases our sense of belonging to those areas, and their belonging to us. [end recording]

The settlement activities across the Green Line has never been carried out in such an organized and established manner. This was a combination of creating facts in the field by individuals and groups, isolated drives by private construction companies and, occasionally, the establishment of several settlements in a certain district by means of the settlement movements. A large number of the settlements were set up secretly to avoid external and sometimes political pressures. There were also cases in which Cabinet ministers were not in on the secret. This time everything is out in the open. There is also one body that will provide information, advice, give tours in the field, direct, register, and grant loans and benefits.

Partners in the campaign are the Housing Ministry, the Science and Development Ministry, the Jewish Agency's Settlement Division, the settlement movements, and the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry's Development Towns Advisory Bureau, under Zohar Gindel.

[Begin Gindel recording] There are no special enticements here, different from those offered in development towns in general. Regarding apartment purchases, there are loans of up to 850,000 shekels, the size of the loan depending on the family's size and where it is settling. If the build-your-own-home project is involved, the Housing Ministry's loans will reach 1 million shekels. [end recording]

The complete details about the campaign will be published in the media starting next week. In mid-May, those interested will be invited to Kefar Hamacabiyya where they will be able to meet government representatives and members of the various settlements. The settlement will begin this summer and will end next summer. In the context of the campaign, industrialists and entrepreneurs will be asked to invest beyond the Green Line.

[Begin unidentified recording] If this campaign indeed succeeds, and the 4,000 apartments we are now offering are populated, then this means that we will fulfill ahead of schedule the plan for 100,000 settlers by 1 year or even a bit more. [end recording]

Peace Now Protests New Settlement Near Nabulus
TA121626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] About 20 members of the Peace Now movement have set up a protest settlement at the entrance to the foothold Har Berakha near Nabulus. They want to protest the government's intention to make the military foothold into a civilian one on Independence Day. The IDF has closed off the area and asked the Peace Now members to leave. For the moment, the army has been ordered not to evacuate the movement's members.

On Independence Day, the first twenty families are to move into the settlement. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that it has been suggested that the Samarians living in the area join the new settlement. A road to Mizpe Levona has been laid near Har Gerizim. Mizpe Levona is a new settlement to be established in the near future. According to the government's plan, there will be eight settlements in the area.

MAPAM Delegate on Socialist Deliberations
TA121621 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1550 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Tel Aviv, 12 Apr (ITIM)—Despite the present success of the Israeli representatives to the Socialist International [SI] conference in Portugal to prevent the acceptance of the PLO in any form as member of that organization, other socialist parties will undoubtedly continue their efforts toward accepting it. This evaluation was expressed today by Dov Zakin, the head of the MAPAM Knesset faction, at a news conference in Bet Sokolov in Tel Aviv.

Zakin has just returned from the SI deliberations in Portugal, as member of the MAPAM delegation that also included political secretary Dr Gadi Yatziv and MAPAM secretary in Europe, Arye Yafe. Zakin pointed out that the SI executive decided

nearly unanimously to accept MAPAM as a full-fledged member of the organization despite the objection of the Israeli Labor Party headed by Chairman Shim'on Peres, who suggested that MAPAM be accepted as part of the Alignment and in subordination to it. However, Zakin noted, after a near unanimous vote was be anticipated with only the French delegate opposing the move, the Labor Party joined in in the final vote and voted to accept MAPAM to the SI as a full member. After this resolution was adopted, the MAPAM delegation announced that it would take action toward setting up a joint Israeli representation with equal rights for the two parties.

In fact, only five countries are represented in the SI by more than one party, so MAPAM regards its acceptance as an important feat. According to Zakin, this allows for broader circles over which the Labor Party has no influence, while MAPAM can transmit the Israeli-socialist message to them more easily.

In this context, he pointed out that Israel's status and predicament are not glorious on the international level, including in the SI, so that if MAPAM was accepted by such a vast majority, although the SI is presently "exposed" to various winds blowing in the world, this is an unprecedented achievement "and now we will be able to take stronger action to explain our cause and our positions," he promised.

As for the resolutions passed in the congress, the Israeli delegation failed to amend in any substantive fashion some formulations and phrasings that are unacceptable to it regarding settlements, the war in Lebanon, the Arab-Palestinian people, and other matters. Therefore, the Israeli delegation refrained from voting on them.

Zakin reported on meetings the MAPAM delegates held with some Arab personalities and with the chairman of the Egyptian Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah. This young jurist told the Israelis that as long as the war in Lebanon continues, he cannot envisage a thaw in bilateral relations. At the same time he said Egypt has passed the most crucial test of sustaining the peace agreement despite the internal Egyptian coercions and pressure from the Arab world.

The MAPAM delegation is also maintaining contacts with Lebanese delegate Walid Junblatt, who represents the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party. He was accompanied by (Janine Rubayz), a Lebanese Palestinian, and both demanded the pullout of all the foreign forces from Lebanon including the PLO, the Syrians, and the Israelis. They also expressed strong opposition to Sa'd Haddad, complaining strongly that Israel prefers the Phalangists over the other sects and thus upsets the delicate balance in Lebanon. Junblatt warned that as long as this preference does not stop, no agreement between the two countries could come about.

Soviet Dissident Says Colleagues Allowed to Leave

TA121812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Lydia Vashchenko, the Pentecostalist who came to Israel this week, says that the Soviet authorities have allowed her six colleagues to leave the U.S. Embassy compound in Moscow and go home to prepare to depart the country. This report has not been confirmed by Moscow. Vashchenko said she held telephone conversations with Jews in the Soviet Union who told her about this. The six Pentecostalists have remained in the U.S. Embassy building in Moscow for 5 years.

ALGERIA

Authorities Reject FRG Report on Technicians' Detention

LD121522 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Quoting allegations by the West German paper BILD ZEITUNG, some foreign news agencies have reported that foreign technicians have been forcefully detained by Algerian workers at an operation room at Ouargla. Sources close to the authorities of Ouargla province have categorically rejected this report, which was also rejected in Algiers.

The truth is that the whole affair was no more than an industrial dispute between the West German geological company, which is prospecting for oil the place [words indistinct] which is 150 km to the southwest of Hassi Messaoud on the one hand, and the Algerian workers employed by the company on the other. This dispute led to the declaration of a general strike on 4 April. On 5 April the Ouargla court passed a verdict in the matter which was in favor of the workers' demands and gave the company 20 days to implement it.

According to information received yesterday by the national police, who were sent to the site of the dispute to investigate matters, the situation was calm, and the foreign technicians consisting of 11 West Germans, 2 French, 2 Britons, a Yugoslav, and a Romanian were performing their duties normally while the 105 Algerian workers were continuing their strike because of a pending point of dispute. The tension between the employer and the workers has never reached the degree of gravity alleged. The foreign technicians have not been subjected at any time to forcefuldetention or to anything at all that would arouse concern.

The West German Charge d'Affaires (Holt), on being received at the Foreign Ministry, has spoken of this matter in an interview with APS. He described the incident as regrettable, and expressed his regret at the way some papers that specialize in the publication of sensational news have capitalized on a problem that develops at times under certain conditions, and which was confined to an industrial dispute. He expressed satisfaction with the attitude of the Algerian authorities, who have settled this industrial dispute in a satisfactory manner.

FLN Official, Eagleberger Discuss Relations

LD122113 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 apr 83

[Text] Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee this afternoon received Mr Lawrence Eagleberger, under secretary for political affairs in the U.S. State Department, in the presence of the American ambassador to Algiers, at the Zirout Youssef Palace. Their talks focused on bilateral relations.

LIBYA

Leader Attends 12 Apr Green Book Session

LD122129 Tripoli JANA in English 1801 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text]Al-Bayan al-Awwal, Jumada Thani 29, Apr 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader - thinker Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi today attended the morning session of the international Green Book conference where he listened to some research papers on the Green Book and its immortal theses.

Al-'Ubaydi Meets Cheysson in Paris

LD122307 Paris International Service in French 2115 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Since this morning an important Libyan personage, head of the country's diplomacy, has been visiting France. He is 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, here on a 48-hour visit. He has been received by his French counterpart, Claude Cheysson, and by Guy Penne, Elysee adviser on African affairs. The meeting is important for, as is known, Guy Penne is due to go to Ndjamena this week.

When Claude Cheysson went to Libya last June he expressed the wish that the suspicions between Paris and Tripoli should diminish. Apparently this process is now well under way as well-informed sources in Paris lead us to believe.

Radio Monte Carlo Interview

JN121850 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1725 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Interview with 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, by Monte Carlo correspondent George Qardahi in Paris on 12 April — recorded]

[Text] [Question] Your Excellency, what did you discuss with Claude Cheysson?

[Answer] Our discussions focused on the entire scope of the relations which exist between Libya and France, particularly in wake of Cheysson's visit last May and the meeting of the joint Libyan-French committee in March. We also discussed how to develop these cultural and economic relations for the better and to have them return to their previous level. We discussed means of promoting our political dialogue and consultations on issues of mutual interest.

[Question] What is your evaluation of current Libyan- French relations?

[Answer] These relations are good and they will inevitably be improved. Cultral, economic and political meetings will be held in the future to promote these relations.

[Question] Will the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah attend the forthcoming Arab summit called by King Hassan II?

[Answer] We shall wait and see whether there will be a summit or not, because in view of the recent developments there will be no need to hold a summit.

[Question] How does Libya view the rapprochement in the Arab Maghreb?

[Answer] We support any rapprochement among Arabs which takes into consideration the will of the Arab people. This applies to what is currently taking place in the Arab Maghreb. Aithout any doubt, we are against the formation of an Arab axis that would seek to divide the Arab homeland because we are advocates of unity and view the Arab nation as being one nation which possesses the means to unite in a manner that would acceptable to the Arab people.

[Question] In the wake of Jallud's visit to Moscow, there was talk about the conclusion in the near future of a treaty of friendship and cooperation between Libya and the USSR. When do you expect this treaty to be signed?

[Answer] We are currently studying several ideas with Soviet friends and the treaty will be signed as soon as we ascertain that we share these ideas.

[Question] What is your comment on the assassination of Dr 'Isam as-Sartawi?

[Answer] We do not believe in violent methods or killings as a solution to any difference. This is so, irrespective of our viewpoint on the method and concepts adopted by the late 'Isam as-Sartawi to settle the Palestinian cause.

Armed Forces Chief Receives Greek Delegation

LD121452 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, deputy chief of the general staff of the armed forces, has received the director of the Greek Naval Staff College and the accompanying delegation.

During this meeting the major stressed the need to continue the exchange of visits to strengthen the friendship linking the Libyan Arab people with the Greek people, and he welcomed this visit. He explained to the Greek militiary delegation about the Jamahiriyah military establishment, saying: We have chosen to build our might through the revolution to bolster our freedom. The Libyan Arab people, men and women, training in arms, are capable of proving their existence,ready to defend their territory and honor and to defend freedom-loving people being (?oppressed) and dominated by imperialist power madness. He added: We refuse to be browbeaten or to surrender to America because we are revolutionaries. We have rebelled for the sake of freedom and have expelled the foreign bases that were on our territory. We decided to live in dignity or die with honor.

Major al-Humaydi pointed to the presence of foreign bases on the territory of many countries. The peoples of these countries are robbed of their will and freedom. [words indistinct] some units of the U.S. fleet set sail to provoke the Libyan Arab people from some of these bases in the countries bordering the Mediterranean in an endeavor by the United States to create a spirit of hostility between the Libyan Arab people and these peoples. He added: We salute the enormous popular awakening of some of the peoples who are demanding the eviction of the American bases from their territories. This worldwide popular hostility against U.S. military presence is nothing but proof of America's [word indistinct] the hatred of the peoples of the world for it. The major also said: The U.S. provocative attempts against our people in the Mediterranean and the attemtps at economic and scientific blockade only increase our conviction that we are proceeding on the correct path. Let the terrorists learn that the Gulf of Sidra is death, because it is part of the land mass of the Libyan Arab territory, and that we are ready for confrontation. He went on: We are against any capitulation attempts by reactionary Arab countries on Arab territory. This does not weaken our resolve because we are determined to confront the enemy anywhere to back freedom and free people and to face the Zionist death train backed by the United States.

MOROCCO

Extraordinary Arab Summit Reportedly Postponed

JN131215 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1207 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] An urgent dispatch we have just received cites an informed source in Rabat as saying that the extraordinary Arab summit which was scheduled to be held in Morocco on Saturday and Sunday has been postponed until furhter notice.

The same source also said that M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, will deliver an official statement on this subject later today.

CAMEROON

Biya Names Cabinet, Foreign Minister Replaced

AB130902 Paris AFP in English 0858 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Yaounde, April 13 (AFP)—Cameroonian President Paul Biya has reshuffled his Cabinet, separating the Economy and Planning Ministry into two new departments and bringing new faces into key ministries.

In the second "technical" reshuffle since he took over from Ahmadou Ahidjo as president last November, Mr. Biya last night announced that the Economy and Planning Ministry would be split into planning and industry, and trade.

Foreign Minister Paul Dontsop was replaced by Felix Tonye Mbog, formerly minister of state responsible for labour and social welfare.

Finance Minister Gilbert Ntang left the government, and was replaced by Etienne Ntsama, previously the director general of the Cameroon International Bank for West Africa (BIAO), while academic agricultural expert Gilbering Bol Alima was brought in as planning and industry minister.

Elizabeth Taneu was moved from her post as planning director to become deputy planning and industry minister, replacing Tori Limangana, appointed trade minister.

Former Economy and Planning Minister Pierre Desire Engo became director general of the national insurance service, while Joseph Charles Doumba, formerly a minister in charge of missions, left the government.

The new 31-member Cameroonian Government named by President Biya is as follows:

Prime Minister:	Maigari Bello Bouba
Minister of State for Armed Forces:	Maikano Abdoulaye
Minister of State for Territorial Administration:	Victor Ayissi Mvodo
Minister of State for Parliamentary Relations:	Emmanuel Egbe Tabi
Minister of State for Agriculture:	Samuel Eboua
Minister of State for Sports:	Andre Ngongang Ouandji
Foreign Minister:	Felix Tonye Mbog
Justice Minister:	Gilbert Andze Tsoungui
Public Service Minister:	Youssoufa Daouda
Finance Minister:	Etienne Ntsama
Education Minister:	Rene Ze Nguele
Labour and Social Welfare Minister:	Daniel Kamgue
Public Health Minister:	Athanase Eteme Oloa
State Inspector and Administrative Reform Minister:	Christian Songwe Bongwa
Minister-delegate for Foreign Affairs:	Oumarou Aminou
Minister in Charge of Missions:	William Eteki Mboumoua
Planning and Industry Minister:	Gilbering Bol Alima
Trade Minister:	Tori Limangana
Social Affairs Minister:	Delphine Tsanga
Livestock, Fishing and Animal Industries Minister:	Luc Ayang
Post and Telecommunications Minister:	Ibrahim Mbombo Njoya
Mines and Energy Minister:	Philemon Yang
Town Planning and Housing Minister:	Hamadou Moustapha
Transport Minister:	Albert Ngome Kome
Information and Culture Minister:	Guillaume Bwelle
Equipment Minister:	Thomas Dakayi Kamga
Deputy Minister for Territorial Administration:	Joseph Chongwan Awunti
Deputy Education Minister:	Dorothy Njeuma
Deputy Finance Minister:	Pierre Helle
Deputy Agriculture Minister:	Salomon Paul Gwe
Deputy Planning and Industry Minister	Elizabeth Tankeu

CHAD

Kamougue Represents Chad at Green Book Meeting

AB122010 Bardai Chadian National Radio (Anti-Habre) in French 1800 Gmt 12 Apr 83

[Text] Our country is being represented at the meeting of the international symposium on the Green Book, taking place in Banghazi, Libya. Comrade vice president of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], Colonel Kamougue, led the Chadian delegation to this meeting. Several African, Asian, Middle East, and East European countries are participating in this revolutionary meeting of the world which began on 7 April. Eminent guests invited to this symposium include President Mathieu Kerekou of Benin and Jerry Rawlings of Ghana. The comrade vice president of the GUNT represented the Chadian head of state. Speaking on the occasion, Colonel Kamougue, who represented Comrade Goukouni Oueddei, explained the political and military situation of country in a concise and detailed briefing. This situation is characterized by the pursuit and implementation of [words indistinct] of international imperialism and its local agents. It should be noted that the international press is silent over this important and capital situation. Whatever the case, we shall return with more details on this symposium when our special reporters return.

Bardai Says Israelis Run Training Centers

AB121941 Bardai Chadian National Radio (Anti-Habre) in French 1800 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Around Ndjamena, our correspondent reported on new training grounds privately manned by Israeli instructors. Also, our correspondent has noted the setting up of a number of terrorist networks and demonstration centers on the banks of the Chari River in three offices whose locations we know as well as in the villages of Madi, Mani, and Bout el Fil. We have in our possession the complete list of their weapons as well as the name of their Ndjamena-Maiduguri liaison agent. We advise the people to take all precautionary measures to foil the activities of this so-called (?emissary) in the pay of imperialism and reaction.

Once again, we warn the misguided elements to stop their crimes against the peaceful citizens. It is in their interest to search their souls again before it is too late.

Finally, let us mention the delivery of about 10 grey jeeps by American imperialism to the antinational forces.

Despite the police efforts of the forces of evil, the people continue to leave Ndjamena en masse, including the unconditional partisans of the FAN. One such departure is the case of a certain (Oumar Adamou), very close to Hissein Habre. He entrusted his belongings to the owner of a taxi with registration number 5 on the door.

ZAIRE

Talks To Formalize Agreements With PRC Begin

AB121427 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Zaire and the PRC are currently holding consultations aimed at formalizing the verbal agreements reached last January when Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang visited Zaire. Chinese Ambassador Li Shanyi made this statement this morning on Bitininda Etumsako's microphone after his audience with First State Commissioner Kengo wa Dondo.

[Begin recording] [Li Shanyi in French] As you know, I have had the honor of being granted an audience by the first state commissioner who held very friendly talks with me. During the audience, we essentially reviewed the friendly relations between China and Zaire. You know that last January the PRC prime minister made an official, friendly visit to Zaire. During the visit the two statesmen [Zhao and Mobutu] agreed verbally on certain projects. Now these verbal agreements must be formalized. The time has come for the agreements to be formalized through permanent consultations between the authorities of the two countries.

[Question] Will the signing of these agreements require much time?

[Answer] We must hold consultations. This does not require much time. It will not be long before they are signed.

[Question] What areas are covered by the agreements?

[Answer] The agreements cover the payment of Zaire's debts to China and the efforts to be made to complete the projects which are now in progress. [end recording]

GHANA

LE MONDE Interviews Head of State Rawlings

PM121037 Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Apr 83 p 5

[Interview with Ghanaian head of state Jerry Rawlings by Thierry Secretan in Accra —date not given]

[Excerpt] Accra —Questioned on the population's future, head of state Captain Jerry Rawlings did not mince words:

"Although the immediate crisis is over, we are certainly not in a position to meet the population's needs in the near future. What the donor countries must realize is that the deportees' real impact on the country's life will only appear after the rainy season and the consequent exodus to the cities. Indeed, our crisis has not yet begun; unless we succeed in making good the deficit in our food stocks we are likely to have social unrest. And it will be justified. Everybody is entitled to hold his government responsible for such situations. What I would like to explain to the donor countries is that it is necessary to organize now to meet the future problems. We are dependent on imported food."

Now, as Mr Mubanda, the chairman of the national committee for coordinating international aid, stated, "less than 40 percent of the aid has been distributed mainly because of a lack of tires...." Thus 5,000 deportees have already returned to Nigeria.

This does not surprise Capt Rawlings: "It is disappointing to be unable to persuade those people to stay but the economic chaos makes it impossible. We must be realistic and admit that the future may lie elsewhere for many skilled and even unskilled Ghanaians. Any Ghanaian whose papers are in order has the right to leave. The only thing we can do to protect our neighbors is to ensure that these people have papers and that we are stepping up border checks. But we will not turn Ghana into a prison. For the time being there are few signs of a rapid economic recovery but the proposed agreement with the IMF and World Bank justifies good long-term hopes."

The announcement a few weeks ago of a possible loan of more than $400 million aroused great hope in the country but also some unrest in west Africa. Will the honesty of Mr Jerry Rawlings' government and the stringency of the plan proposed to the IMF by Secretary for Finance and Economic Planning Kwesi Botwe suddenly attract investors? For the first time in Ghana the money in circulation has been reduced by 20 percent and the vital devaluation of the cedi is hidden under a plan for import surcharges (800 percent) and export bonuses (500 percent).

"We Are Improving Our Image"

In addition, Capt Rawlings sees hopes of future recovery in the change of attitude of some countries toward Ghana:

"International diplomacy operates at many levels. We are beginning to obtain international support; the government is recognized, as is our economic approach. The agreement with the IMF will be based on our proposals. We are, therefore, improving our image and some people regard us as competent. But meanwhile the various security agencies that surround the Western governments continue to view us in the defensively shortsighted way they always have! They branded us a threat from the start because we want to exploit more of our Ghanaian resources ourselves. Although there is a slow movement in our favor, it will take a great deal of time before those agencies change their opinion. They can try to bring us down even if their governments are beginning to accept us. This is paradoxical but true. It is one of the aspects of the foreign aid given to the recent plots and attempted coups. The other aspect is the way in which those attempts were made, using groups of exiles who would like nothing better than to overthrow us. We will, however,remain vigilant because we are aware of the strange distortions that international relations impose on us. We have excellent relations with countries whose security services are trying to destroy us. It is very strange."

However, President Rawlings admitted that his relations with his French-speaking neighbors "have been very difficult because of the long period in which the borders were closed. That decision violated the ECOWAS convention but we were forced to do it purely for economic security. We have opened the borders and things are improving. But in the past, when we first took power, the French Government was very distrustful because of the press campaign which alleged that we were satellites of so-called Libyan expansionism. The Libyans were certainly seen as trying to use us to launch destabilizing attacks on the French-speaking states and west Africa. That is ridiculous. But such a defensive state of mind dies hard. And relations with the Ivory Coast and Togo have been cold per se and because of the French influence. But what does the Ivory Coast really have to fear from us with so many French troops in its country? It is nonsense to think that we could attack them. We were classed internationally as aggressive and destabilizing. People are only now beginning to understand that we intend to be, in other words, pro-Ghana and pro-Ghanaian. No more and no less. So, although things have been difficult recently, they are now improving."

Papers on Airline Problems, Rawlings Statement

AB121956 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Press review]

[Text] Writing under the heading "This Must Stop," the GHANAIAN TIMES disclosed that Ghanaian resident in Nigeria, who want to travel home by Ghana Airways DC-10 and buy their tickets in naira, are often told that seats are fully booked by Ghana-originated passengers who pay for their tickets in cedis. According to the paper, multiple advance bookings are made in Accra by Ghanaian traders who exchange cedis and naira on the black market for their kalabule [dishonest] trading activities and this deprives Ghanaians in Nigeria from traveling on their national airline. It also deprives Ghana Airways from getting revenue in naira even though it is not convertible. The TIMES, therefore, calls on the authorities to take immediate steps to correct this malpractice. In the view of the paper, the most acceptable measure is to ensure that before a holder of a cedi return ticket is confirmed for a return flight from Lagos, those who bought their tickets in Nigeria in naira or any other

foreign currency for a flight to Ghana should have their bookings confirmed first. The paper also recommends that multiple bookings by kalabule traders who flock to Nigeria to buy goods with their illegally-exchanged currencies should not be allowed. The TIMES also calls on Nigeria Airways to stop the current practice whereby most confirmed passengers to Accra do not get seats on their aircraft and those affected are left stranded for days.

The PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC comments on a statement made by the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, at a symposium in Banghazi, Libya, that the strength of a united and determined people to achieve a certain goal and objective is very important. The GRAPHIC says revolutions throughout the world have been difficult and thinks denial of the people's basic needs in the country during the past has been the cause of tension in the society. It is, however, happy that the PNDC government is making visible and bold efforts to import and provide some basic items to the people. Nevertheless, the GRAPHIC is of the view that the question of the authority of the people cannot be lost. It points out that all over the Third World, popular expression is demanding not just a change in economic structures but more importantly, the social and the political spheres. The paper goes on to say that democracy from the grassroots is a gaining ground and there is a greater involvement of all the people. (ENDALL)

NIGER

Kountche Receives Nigerian Foreign Minister

AB121838 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Head of state General Seyni Kountche this morning received the Nigerian minister of foreign affairs. Dr Ishaya Audu and the head of state discussed the forthcoming OAU summit and the forthcoming meeting of the bilateral commission.

NIGERIA

Government Asks IMF to Relax Lending Policies

AB121603 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The Federal Government has called on the IMF to relax its lending conditions to provide more access to the fund by developing countries. The call was made today by the minister of finance, Mr Victor Masi, while seeing off an eight-man IMF team at the end of its 1-week official visit to Nigeria. He said in a situation of growing interdependence of the world economy, it was in the interest of the developing as well as the developed countries that the economies of the Third World should be kept afloat. Mr Masi said Nigeria was a peculiar case that should be given a particular attention since it formed the largest market in the entire Third World for the manufacturers of the developed countries. The minister reminded members of the team that if IMF lending rigidity was not relaxed in the face of declining world economy, it will reduce the world institution to a mere white elephant.

The leader of the delegation, Mr Nflay Sangare, expressed his willingness to make the view of the minister known to the authorities of the IMF in Washington.

NAN Reports Agricultural Talks With U.S.

AB121544 Lagos NAN in English 1535 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Lagos, April 12 (NAN)—The minister of agriculture, Malam Adamu Ciroma, today in Lagos said that despite the world-wide economic recession, Nigeria's investment climate is still very healthy.

The minister, who was addressing a meeting of the Nigeria-U.S. Joint Agricultural Consultative Committee, said that the ministry had provided a secretariat for the committee to aid it in the implementation of 18 joint agricultural projects. He said that the projects had a potential investment of more than 300 million naira.

Malam Adamu said that the Ministry of Commerce would also give maximum support to Nigerian and American enterpreneurs who wished to establish joint-ventures in Nigeria.

He appealed to the committee to see itself, first as an agricultural investment promotion association with the specific objective of developing the agro-business industry in the country. The minister said that the promotion of agro-business industry would be made possible through the injection of American technology and capital for the mutual benefits of Nigerian and American businessmen.

The U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Thomas Pickering, pledged his support to the committee and promised to co-ordinate the activities of American and Nigerian businessmen. He urged Nigerians to co-operate with the government in identifying strong potential projects that would help both countries.

ANGOLA

UNITA Says CSSR, Portuguese Prisoners Ill

AB121211 Paris AFP in English 1128 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Paris, April 12 (AFP)—Three of the 86 Czechoslovak and Portuguese prisoners captured in southern Angola on March 12 by the rebel Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) are either ill or exhausted, a UNITA statement said here today. The statement said the weakest prisoners were currently in a safe zone "where they are regaining strength". It added that because of the physical condition of the 66 Czechoslovak nationals and the 20 Portuguese, and also to avoid ambush, the prisoners had been split into six groups.

UNITA said the healthiest prisoners were expected at UNITA'S central base next Tuesday but did not say where the base was located. According to a "health bulletin" issued by the "health services" accompanying the prisoners, 12 people were suffering from dysentery, six from gastritis, nine from fever, and 26 were p h y s i c a l l y e x h a u s t e d .

AFP Cites ANGOP on MPLA Party Appointments

AB121800 Paris AFP in French 1246 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Luanda, 12 Apr (AFP)—The Angolan authorities today made some changes in the leadership of the ruling MPLA-Labor Party, especially by the dismissal of Mrs Ruth Lara, the director of the Department of Cadres and the appointment of two new directors for the national radio and television.

According to the Angolan press agency, Mrs Ruth Lara was relieved of her functions by a presidential decree. Ruth Lara, who is the wife of Lucio Lara, the Central Committee's secretary for the Department of Organization, had been suspended together with 30 other militants in December 1982. It will be recalled that four leaders were imprisoned for causing a "split within the party and disrespect for President dos Santos."

In early February, 18 of the 30 militants imprisoned were reinstated while 3 of the 4 leaders imprisoned were freed. Only Costa Andrade, President Neto's biographer and the secretary of the Union of Journalists, is still in detention. Furthermore, MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee Secretary for Ideology Roberto de Almeida has appointed two new directors for Angolan radio and television, the ANGOLAN PRESS AGENCY announced today. Ruiide Carvalho, the former director of Angolan radio, has become the director of television in the place of Eugehnio Romulo who has been relieved of his functions. Guilherme Ysenbout Mogos, who once before occupied the post of the director of the national radio, replaces Rui de Carvelho in this position.

Also, Manuel Miguel Carvelho "Wadijimbi," the director of the Department of Information and Propaganda, and Mrs Luzia Bebiana Sabastiao, the party's director of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports have been dismissed following a decision made during the previous extraordinary meeting of the Central Committee.

It will be recalled that these two people are members of the team set up by Ambrosio Lukoki, expelled from the Political Bureau (the supreme organ of the party) in December 1982 and replaced by Roberto de Almeida.

Polish Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks

MB121412 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski arrived in Luanda this morning for a 24-hour visit to our country. The Polish minister will hold talks with Angolan Foreign Minister Paulo Teixeira Jorge on matters of common interest, and on other matters of an international nature.

On his arrival at Fourth of February Airport, Stefan Olszowski said:

[Begin recording: Olszowski in Polish with Portuguese translation] I want to thank Minister Paulo Jorge for allowing me to visit your beautiful country. During my stay I would like, along with my colleague, Paulo Jorge, and other Angolan high officials, to talk about and deal with problems that are common to our countries. These are problems faced by the people and the party and government leadership. [Words indistinct] for 5 centuries Angola was under Portuguese colonial domination and now [words indistinct].

It has been with sympathy and admiration that Poland followed the heroic struggle of the Angolan people for their independence [words indistinct]. Presently, Poland is being subjected to interference from imperialism, and its aim is always the same [words indistinct]. We know that yours is a difficult struggle, in view of the maneuvers by the South African fascist regime. [end recording]

The Polish minister of foreign affairs, who leads an important government delegation, was received by Paulo Jorge and by Poland's ambassador to Angola.

Dos Santos Receives Soviet Envoy 11 April

AB121125 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Yesterday, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos received in Luanda Vadim Petrovich Loginov, the Soviet ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Angola. The talks are reported to have centered on matters of common interest.

CSSR Youth Delegation Begins Official Visit

AB121156 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] A delegation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Union of Youth [SSM], led by its chairman, Jaroslav Jeneral, begins a few days' official visit to the People's Republic of Angola. The SSM delegation will confer notably with the MPLA-Labor Party youth wing officials. It will also take part in the 14 April celebrations to mark Angolan Youth Day. This year's celebra-

tions will be held in Lubango, a province in southern Angola.

The Czechoslovak youth delegation will also hold talks with Secretary of State for Culture (Cardozo Boaventura). A joint communique will be issued at the end of the visit.

Lisbon Paper Interviews Foreign Minister Jorge
PM130858 Lisbon AVANTE! in Portuguese 31 Mar 83 p 12 (supplement)

[Interview with Angolan Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge; unattributed; presumably conducted during Jorge's Lisbon visit to attend frontline conference]

[Excerpt] Question: The racist Pretoria regime's attacks on the People's Republic of Angola [PRA] certainly pose many difficulties for the country's development. What is the present situation in Angola from the social and economic viewpoint?

Answer: There is no doubt that our party and government are experiencing a very serious situation, because of several factors. First, thanks to permanent aggression perpetrated by South Africa against the PRA, on the false pretext of destroying alleged South West African People's Organization [SWAPO] bases in our country. When we look at the objectives attacked and destroyed in the South African forces' air and land attacks, we discover, however, that they are economic targets that have nothing to do with SWAPO.

Obviously the situation of undeclared war which our people, our party, and our government are trying to cope with has serious implications for the country's social and economic development and poses serious difficulties in the implementation of the plans and guidelines defined by the Labor Party since its first congress and especially since the special congress devoted almost exclusively to the economic situation.

The aggressions necessitate the allocation of material and human resources to the defense of national sovereignty and the country's integrity, which naturally compromises the progress of development. Moreover, the crisis of the capitalist system has serious repercussions on our economy, since there has been a drop in the prices of our principal export products, particularly oil, diamonds, and coffee.

The forecasts of our first 5-year plan are compromised, which is reflected in serious difficulties in satisfying the people's minimum requirements in education, health, nutrition, social amenities, and the development of agriculture and industry. Among factors contributing to our difficulties, we should point to the crucial shortage of trained personnel, together with our inexperience.

However, the leaders of our party and our government are aware of the gravity of the situation, having recently adopted an emergency plan designed to adapt our economy to that of a country at war. We believe, however, that the efforts and sacrifices that the Angolan people have accepted in building a socialist society and fulfilling their internationalist duty to the struggling peoples of southern Africa, especially in Namibia and South Africa, have unfortunately not been matched by the international community.

We have the feeling that the international community forgets that Namibia is not an Angolan problem: The territory is under UN protection, which means that everyone has real responsibilities for its independence.

Question: How would you describe relations between Angola and Portugal?

Answer: Relations between our countries have never been straightforward, perhaps because of the series of government changes or fluctuations in Portugal. However, especially following President Eanes' visit to Angola in 1982 and thanks to his commitment to the increasing and harmonious development of these relations, there are prospects for greater understanding, particularly with regard to bilateral cooperation in several fields.

Relations are good, and we believe that they could reach an even better level, since we believe that there are mutual advantages in it.

Question: Does the existence in Portugal of terrorist groups whose activity is centered on the PRA, the impunity that they enjoy, and the heed granted them in the state-owned media not jeopardize these good relations?

Answer: We have already made known to the Portuguese Government, on several occasions and via various channels, our anxieties about and incomprehension of the facilities granted to supposed representatives of puppet organizations in the pay of interests other than those of the Angolan people. The presence in Portugal of such elements, which are permitted to express their opinions via the state-owned media, to some extent affects the harmonious development of bilateral relations between our countries.

We have observed that the main argument in support of this state of affairs is that of the freedom of the press, and we do believe that the freedom of the press must be taken into consideration when it has the aim of properly reporting the situation, bearing in mind that it helps to fashion the nation's public opinion. But when the freedom of the press reaches the point of jeopardizing fundamental principles and even insulting a revolutionary process and its leaders, we cannot understand it.

This prevailing situation in Portugal has in no way contributed to a greater amenability on our part in relations between the countries or to prospects for future cooperation, which must, as I have already said, take account of the principle of mutual advantage.

We are not unaware that elements within the Portuguese Government parties have held a hostile attitude toward the Angolan revolutionary process, which does not facilitate the continuation of the intensification of relations between us. However, we will continue to stress our anxieties so that the Portuguese authorities concerned can take the most suitable measures for the development of good relations between the countries and their respective peoples.

BOTSWANA

Opening of Border Post With Zimbabwe Discussed

MB121503 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The assistant minister of finance and development planning, Mr (Chilume), says arrangements are at an advanced stage for the possible opening of the border post somewhere in the Maitengwe area on the Botswana-Zimbabwe border. Mr (Chilume) made the disclosure last week during his tour of (Nkange), where he addressed a number of (?quarter) meetings. He explained that the move was taken as a result of a continuous complaint by villagers in the Maitengwe area that the (Vakaranga) border post was far from their village.

The minister, however, warned people against illegal crossing of the border at unauthorized areas into Zimbabwe. He also warned his constituents against smuggling currency into Zimbabwe, adding that if the situation continues, the government would be compelled to consider introducing strict measures. He also informed his electorate that [word indistinct] clinic would be upgraded to a health centre.

Mr (Chilume) also disclosed that the government has taken a decision to increase the parliamentary constituencies from 32 to 34.

LESOTHO

Court Building Bombed, Attacked by Armed Men

MB121309 Maseru Domestic Service in Sesotho 1100 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The Ministry of Justice has announced today that a court in Tlale in the district of Leribe was attacked and bombed on Saturday night by a group of armed men. The court building was extensively damaged. No one was hurt during this attack. The court guard escaped miraculously. The police are still investigating.

Prime Minister Commends King's Appeal to UN

MB 12132 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, says deep gratitude must be extended to His Majesty for pioneering Lesotho's case before the Security Council. The prime minister said this yesterday in a brief to parliament on South Africa's activities against Lesotho.

The prime minister said Lesotho also thanked the permanent members of the Security Council, none of whom vetoed the resolution that the council unreservedly condemn South Africa and called upon it to declare publicly that it was never again going to attack Lesotho either directly or by proxy. The council also demanded that South Africa should pay reparations for damage to life and property, whilst it further called on the international community to extend all necessary economic assistance to Lesotho in order to strengthen its capacity to receive and maintain South African refugees.

Dr Jonathan observed that since the resolution was passed unanimously by the Eastern, Western, and nonaligned countries in the council, it was a clear measure of the international community's unity against South Africa's naked militarism in the subcontinent.

The prime minister told the House that South Africa, in its typical defiance of the United Nations in particular and the international community in general, has neither made a public undertaking never to attack Lesotho again, nor has it paid any reparations for damage to life and property. Instead he said, South Africa has threatened to repeat this attack and has publicly refused to pay damages.

Government Scores Pik Botha's 'Empty Verbiage'

MB121303 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] A Lesotho Government spokesman said today that the reaction of South Africa's foreign minister, Pik Botha, to the statement by the prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, yesterday was empty verbiage which failed totally to defeat the facts raised by the prime minister.

Pik Botha was quoted by the state-controlled South African Broadcasting Corporation as saying that he was not aware of the state of war between Lesotho and South Africa, and that the 141 Basotho in South Africa were also not aware of the situation. He also claims that Lesotho was at war with itself.

Commenting on Pik Botha's reaction, the spokesman said that Lesotho would not expect him to state publicly that South Africa was fighting an undeclared war against Lesotho, but the emptiness of his denial was surprising, as it would have been expected that he was going to give an elaboration.

The spokesman said that it was deplorable that Pik Botha was turning himself into a spokesman of the Basotho working in South Africa. He added that this was certainly meant to tell Lesotho to keep quiet because there were many of her citizens under employment in South Africa. The spokesman concluded that the Basotho who were in South Africa were selling their labor and were not receiving charity from that country. Even if that were to be the case, it would not be a mandate for South Africa to harass Lesotho as it was presently doing.

Request for Food Aid Receives Favorable Response

MB121224 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] The response to Mozambique's international appeal for urgent food aid to help drought victims is favorable. Indications are that Mozambique will get the 100,000 tons of grain it requested as urgent food aid. Twenty-five thousand tons of corn are being distributed in the Moamba and Magude districts of

Maputo Province. Moamba is one of the areas worst hit by the drought, described as the most severe in 50 years. The corn being distributed in these areas is from the World Food Program.

Overall, by the weekend seven countries and three organizations have responded to Mozambique's appeal. These are Zimbabwe, the United States, Denmark, Austria, Holland, Britian, and the FRG, as well as the World Food Program, the EEC, and the Caritas religious organization of the FRG.